Dear ConriN members,
Many thanks to you who have contributed to this newsletter. Please keep sending me information that you want to share with your Nordic colleagues about activities, call for papers, new research projects etc.

I wish you all a lovely summer.

Best wishes,

Malin Tengblad, malin.tengblad@cfk.gu.se
ConriN and Conrid coordinator at Center for Consumer Science (CFK)

Conferences and seminars

8th Pangborn Sensory Science Symposium, 26-30 July 2009, Florence, Italy. A bi-annual global conference series that is related to the perception of foods by consumers. For more information www.pangborn2009.com

Finnish Society for Environmental Social Sciences is organising a fall colloquium with the theme "Environmental governance of natural resources, the economy, and consumption" to be held in Helsinki on 26–27 November 2009. For more information: http://www.yhys.net/kollokvio.php

Call for papers
Call for Papers for a JCP Special Issue on “Putting Sustainable Consumption into Practice”.
Editor: John Thøgersen (Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University)
Guest Editor: Ulf Schrader (Technical University of Berlin)

Private consumption is increasingly blamed for environmental pollution and resource depletion. Affluent consumers’ choices are also seen as the root cause of unfair conditions for producers and production workers in developing countries, including child labour, unhealthy working conditions, and unfair terms of trade. On this background, it has been suggested that, in modern societies, it is neither possible nor ethically justifiable to pursue the traditional model of consumer sovereignty, focussing on individual utility maximization only... Read the full call for papers at the last page of this newsletter.

New projects
Intergenerational transmission of environmentally related consumption behaviours: A comparison of the US and Denmark.
Participants: Alice Grønhøj & John Thøgersen, Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University and
Nordic YoungHealth. Possibilities and Barriers for new, healthy concepts in the fast food sector.

Project leader Kjersti Lillebo, SIFO.

Project participants: Helene Brembeck, CFK, Sweden; Johanna Mäkelä, National Consumer Research Centre, Finland; Bengt Egberg Mikkelsen, National Food Institute, Denmark; Øydis Ueland, Nofima MatAS, Norway; Alfons Ramel, Landspitali-UniversityHospital, University of Iceland & Unit for Nutrition Research.

Funded by Nordisk Innovationscenter.

Read more [http://www.sifo.no/page/preview/preview/10060/74839.html](http://www.sifo.no/page/preview/preview/10060/74839.html)

New publications

**DISSERTATIONS**


**BOOKS**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


ARTICLES


REPORTS


DEBATE ARTICLE
Private consumption is increasingly blamed for environmental pollution and resource depletion. Affluent consumers’ choices are also seen as the root cause of unfair conditions for producers and production workers in developing countries, including child labour, unhealthy working conditions, and unfair terms of trade. On this background, it has been suggested that, in modern societies, it is neither possible nor ethically justifiable to pursue the traditional model of consumer sovereignty, focussing on individual utility maximization only. Consumers have at least a co-responsibility for the consequences of their choices (Hansen, U., & Schrader, U. (1997). A modern model of consumption for a sustainable society. Journal of Consumer Policy, 20, 443-468). Others warn that policy makers and corporations often stretch the attribution of responsibility to consumers too far, given individual consumers’ limited ability to influence pollution, resource use, labour conditions, etc. (Thøgersen, J. (2005). How may consumer policy empower consumers for sustainable lifestyles? Journal of Consumer Policy, 28, 143-178). In such cases, policy makers risk producing consumer helplessness, denial, and reaction and their procrastination results in lost momentum in terms of effectively dealing with the serious problems that we face.

Along these and similar arguments, much has been said on the necessity and the constraints of sustainable consumption. This special issue now asks how a necessary change can happen – despite existing obstacles, which have to be taken into account. Relevant topics include (1) how consumers can be motivated and empowered to act as consumer citizens and foster sustainable development, (2) how governmental and non-governmental organisations as well as companies can provide the adequate infrastructure for consumers instead of engaging in “victim-blaming”, (3) how consumers can interact with each other and with other partners to create new sustainable options. This special issue of the Journal of Consumer Policy (JCP) focuses on solutions for a sustainable future – without being naive and neglecting goal conflicts or rebound effects. The paper should contribute to the development of a consumer policy which promotes sustainable consumption. Both policy-oriented and policy relevant papers are welcome. The editors welcome contributions reflecting different disciplinary perspectives, methodological approaches, international and cross-cultural contexts. While empirical papers (especially on successful examples) are strongly encouraged, theoretical and conceptual contributions are also appreciated.

The papers for this special issue have to be submitted before December 31st, 2009.

Further details for submission are available at the journal website: http://www.springerlink.com/content/100283/

ConriN news is a newsletter that is sent to the members of Consumer Research interdisciplinary Network. All members in ConriN are registered in Conrid, www.conrid.cfk.gu.se Conrid is a database over Nordic consumer research powered by CFK, Centre for Consumer Science.

Centre for consumer science
School of Business Economics and Law at University of Gothenburg
PO Box 600 · 405 30 Gothenburg · Sweden
www.cfk.gu.se